

first materials and permanent efforts of Building Art—sacrifice he shows to have been associated with, and to have guided the way of, the first builders, from the "primal altar of little more than a raised hearth, built generally of earthy stones," to the "column or stone pillar of mastic character." And Adam rose up early in the morning, and took the stones which he had put for his pillow, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil upon the top of it; and he called the name of that place Beth-El." "The Greeks also erected pillars which they called 'Basilis,' evidently derived from Beth-El, involving the same mystery, and both supposed to be symbols of the Divine Presence."

Chapter VI. increases in interest, and is devoted to the TEMPLE OF AMMON.

"The Temple of Ammon, the remains of which archaeologists, for many powerful reasons, agree are extant in the enormous pile known as the Temple of Karnak, is by far the most extensive, as well as the most ancient, of the Theban edifices, and belongs to the whole period of the monarchy, and may with propriety be termed the Temple of the Pharaohs, the majority of whom, in succession, more particularly such as are celebrated in history, contributed to its enlargement and magnificence. From numerous authorities it comes clearly that HAN, the son of NOAH, the AMUR, AMMON, or OAMON of the Egyptians, must be considered as the original founder of Thebes, or the city of Ammon, as his son MICHAEL, MIKON, or MENSA, was by common consent the founder of Memphis; so that the temple of Ammon or Han was, in all probability, originally named from its founder, like the Temple of Solomon at Jerusalem."

We cannot take our readers along with us as we would by quoting largely from this interesting chapter, nor will we presume to dispose of the work by this brief and imperfect notice; it deserves much more at our hands; it is written with an enlarged feeling, and a genuine spirit of devotion to the sublime art upon which it treats; it is erudite, and occasionally profound; but we must take our leave of it for the present, concluding with another extract from the same chapter.

"The remains of Karnak are about 2,500 feet from the banks of the Nile, on an artificial elevation, surrounded by a brick wall, about 5,500 yards in circuit. The chief front of the temple (the western) is turned towards the river, with which it was connected by an alley of colossal obelisks, and led down to the bank of the river. Here the devotees would land who came from a distance to the shrine of Ammon, and with amazement and a feeling of religious awe would slowly walk along between the majestic and lofty columns to the still more magnificent propylæa. This colossal entrance is about 360 feet long and 160 high; the great door in the middle is 64 feet high. Passing through this doorway, he would enter a long court, occupied by a row of pillars on the north and south sides, and a double row of taller pillars running down the middle. These pillars represented opposite to two colossal statues in front of a second propylon, through which, after ascending a flight of twenty-seven steps, we enter the great hypostyle hall, which had a flat stone roof, supported by one hundred and thirty-four colossal pillars. Some of which are twenty-six feet in circumference, and others thirty-four. The width of this magnificent hall (for the entrance is in the centre of the longest side) is about 336 feet, and the length or depth 170 feet. The entire column supported a three-story, in which were small windows. Four beautiful obelisks mark the entrance to the aytian, which consists of three apartments entirely of granite. The centre or principal room is 90 feet long, 16 wide, and 13 feet high. Three blocks of granite form the roof, which is painted with eight stars upon a blue ground. Beyond this are other porticoes and galleries, which have been continued to another propylon at the distance of 2,000 feet from that at the western extremity of the temple."

English Patents for 1841. By ANDREW FRITH-CHARD, M.R.I., &c. Whitaker and Co., London. 2s. 6d.

We had commenced the selection of a list of patents from this excellent compendium, with the intention of laying before our readers all those pertaining to the Building Art, but found that we should have to reprint nearly the whole of the book; so comprehensive is the range we have chosen, and so ingenious the class we have the honour to serve. Of 441 patents herein entered, by far the largest proportion are as we have stated; and we can only, therefore, refer to the work itself. Besides the above list of patents, there is appended a copy of Letters Patent, an abstract of the Registration of Designs Act, and a notice respecting its operation, concluding with a useful index, which shows at one glance what you would refer to. The value of such a work as this is not to be estimated. All persons intending to take out patents should look over its pages, so it may save much trouble and expense. We know of many who would have been great gainers had they had such a guide at their elbows.

MISCELLANEOUS.

There is a consideration which engenders architecture to a decided pre-eminence amongst the other arts. It is itself the parent of many separate professions, and requires a combination of

talents and an extent of knowledge for which no other profession has not the smallest chance.

An acquaintance with the sciences of geometry and mechanics, with the arts of sculpture and design, and other abstract and elegant branches of knowledge, are indispensable requisites for the execution of a good architect, and raise his art to a vast height above those professions which practice alone can render familiar, and which consist in the mere exertion of muscular force. From these considerations it appears there is some foundation in the very nature of architecture for those extraordinary privileges to which none have always laid claim, and which they have almost always possessed—privileges which no other artists could have confidence in, or liberty to enjoy.—*Ency. Brit.*, Vol. XIV., p. 280.

ALSO OF FRENCH ARCHITECTURE.—In France we find that public works have been reared at an expense not exceeding that of edifices of little or no excellence in our own country, even although the charges of building are not materially different in the two countries. So true it is, that the most essential elements in architectural beauty—genius and taste in the architect, are beyond the power of mere wealth to command—that it is not money to construct beautiful edifices, but the mind to conceive them, which is generally wanting. It would seem, therefore, that it is the pure taste and noble conceptions of the artists of Southern Europe, rather than in any great excellence in the materials at their command, or the wealth of which they have the disposal, to which we must ascribe their remarkable superiority to those of this country.

DEVONSHIRE HOUSE, PICCADILLY.—The additions and alterations which are being made to this fine old mansion, the residence of His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, are proceeding rapidly, and will add considerably to the extent as well as to its internal arrangements. Mr. Decimus Burton is the architect, and Messrs. Watcott and Son are the contractors, for these works, which will yet take many months to complete. The Duke is for the present staying at his princely abode, Chatsworth.

CHURCH EXTENSION.—There are now twelve new churches building, or about to be commenced, in various parts of the metropolis; one in the Kent-road, in the parish of St. George, Southwark; one in the parish of Paddington; another on the site of the Old Broadway Chapel, Westminster; a large church, with a lofty Gothic tower, in which a musical peal of bells is to be placed, in Wilton-square, Knightsbridge; three in Bethnal-green parish, and a church in St. Pancras parish. Sites have been chosen for a new church in the Waterloo-road district of Lambeth parish; another in St. Botolph Without, Aldgate, in the county of Middlesex; and a third in St. George's-in-the-East. The new parish church of St. Giles's, Camberwell, building on the site of the old edifice, which was destroyed by fire, is progressing rapidly, and will be a noble and spacious edifice. The new church at Paddington will be a great ornament to that neighbourhood. The University of Durham has granted 400*l.* towards the erection of a new church at South Shields. It is intended to build a new Roman Catholic Church in the eastern part of the metropolis. The site chosen is a large piece of ground on the south side of the Commercial-road, and it is expected that the total cost of the edifice and the purchase of the ground will not fall short of 30,000*l.*

NOTICES.

TO ADVERTISERS.—This first impression of Five Thousand is reserved for sale in London and the large Provincial Towns. The next impression of five thousand will be stamped, so as to pass post-free, and will be circulated gratuitously on the 7th of January, 1843, amongst that number of the nobility, gentry, clergy, professional men, and principal tradesmen, all over the United Kingdom, according to a list which has most graciously been placed at our disposal for that purpose by a friend. It is important, therefore, to advertisers that they should seize the opportunity thus afforded them of a special and select notification of their business among a class of such importance. It may be affirmed, indeed, that a circulation of this character and amount is superior to one of four times the number of copies dispersed at random, in the ordinary way of sale. Additional advertisements, therefore, (not of important character) will be inserted in a Supplement to accompany this gratuitous circulation.

as well as the future sale, and should be sent to the Office at latest, on Thursday, the 5th of January. The charge for advertisements in the Supplement will be 1*l.* per quarter column, 7*l.* 10*s.* per half column, and so on; smaller advertisements according to agreement. To insure more attention to the Supplement, as well as to secure an additional circulation for it, it will contain matter of interest as to the progress of the first impression, correspondence, and the like. Our prospects hitherto have been so far gratifying as to give us confidence that the whole number of 20,000 copies of the Precursor will be disposed of.

TO OUR READERS.—As we do not choose to trust our own judgment on a subject in which so many are interested besides ourselves, and as it is so easy to obtain an opinion by which we may be guided, we think it right in this place to invite attention to our views on the subject of the future character of "THE BUILDER." Before a month shall have elapsed, at least 20,000 numbers of this paper will, in all probability, have been circulated, and will have passed under the review of twenty times that number of readers. They, and in particular our Reading friends, will have made up their minds as to whether "THE BUILDER" is a work to be encouraged—or certainly is not our desire to attempt to force the point, although we would use a little "gratuitous violence" to develop the evidence—and this we may be supposed to be doing now. We have said that there are two parties to this, as to every other question—the public and ourselves.

It is not for us to tell the public that they know nothing of their own wants, and to attempt to force them into the belief that such a paper as "THE BUILDER" is absolutely necessary, but unless we had taken this step on our own responsibility, the question would have remained undetermined. What we would ask of the Reading public then is—Do you wish to have a periodical devoted to your interests, as we propose? and whether would you have it a Magazine and Advertiser simply, or as a Newspaper combined? In the former case it might be weekly or monthly, in the latter it must necessarily be weekly. As to the price and size: if a Magazine and Advertiser of twelve pages of the size of our present number, we should say 3*d.* the number, stamped 4*d.*; if a Newspaper of sixteen pages, we do not think it could be less than 6*d.* Every body has seen the Illustrated London News, and allowing for difference in the character of the illustrations (those in "THE BUILDER" being devoted entirely to art and science), you will be able to judge of the appearance which the latter will present. We are only anxious to undertake no more, or, no less, than can reasonably be expected to be carried out. If it should appear from experience of the working that more can be accomplished, we shall most gladly acknowledge and act upon it, by either enlarging the paper, or reducing the price. But we still think that to confine the character of a Magazine and Newspaper, and at the cost of our to give the advantages of both, will be to study the true economy of our cause.

The readers, therefore, have much of the settlement of the question in their own hands—even to the financing of the advertiser. All advertisers look for papers of large circulation, and as advertisements are a great means of support to a newspaper, it is evident that the more "THE BUILDER" is supported by the more reader, by so much the more does it stand a chance of support from advertisers. We venture, therefore, to speak in this business as though we were ourselves less concerned in its issue than we really feel to be—and we urge upon our illustrious fellow-craftsmen to make this paper their own. Let it be a sign or standard of union.

We do not ask to have subscriptions forwarded, but we would respectfully request to be favoured by an immediate intimation from all persons as to their willingness to subscribe, and which they would prefer, a Magazine alone, or Magazine and Newspaper.

We trust it will be considered that we are pursuing a straightforward and unimpeachable course, willing to be guided by circumstances, rather than to seek to force, or control them, or to stand upon our own presumptuous judgment; that which a practical and discreet man would not be left to the decision of the common-sense of the public.

Pardon us if we once more urge you to rally round "THE BUILDER."